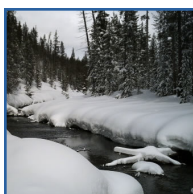
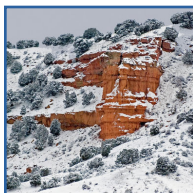


The Human Touch

Utah Department of
Human Services
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In This Issue:

1. JJS Road Trip p.2
2. Meals On Wheels p.3
3. Utah Legislature p.4
4. Buzz Words Puzzle p.5
5. Training Tidbits p.6

And More!

Director's Message

We are already deep into the legislative session and advocating for our budget and our issues. It will be an interesting year. Our budget priorities include drug court, youth substance abuse treatment, the disabilities waiting list, treatment for abused children, caseload growth in several areas, meals on wheels and domestic violence programs. I hope you take the opportunity to follow issues that affect you and let me know if you see something that should be addressed.

As I've said all along, I will be talking about employee compensation in both our budget hearings and also in my one on one meetings with legislators. DHS has a solid reputation with legislators and I am proud to advocate on your behalf.

The legislature will also be considering a building request for a new state office building. Human Services is reported to be one of the tenants of that new building, along with several other state agencies. As you know, the state sold the Human Services Administration building last year and plans for a replacement are underway. Nothing is finalized, but the most likely scenario would be to co-



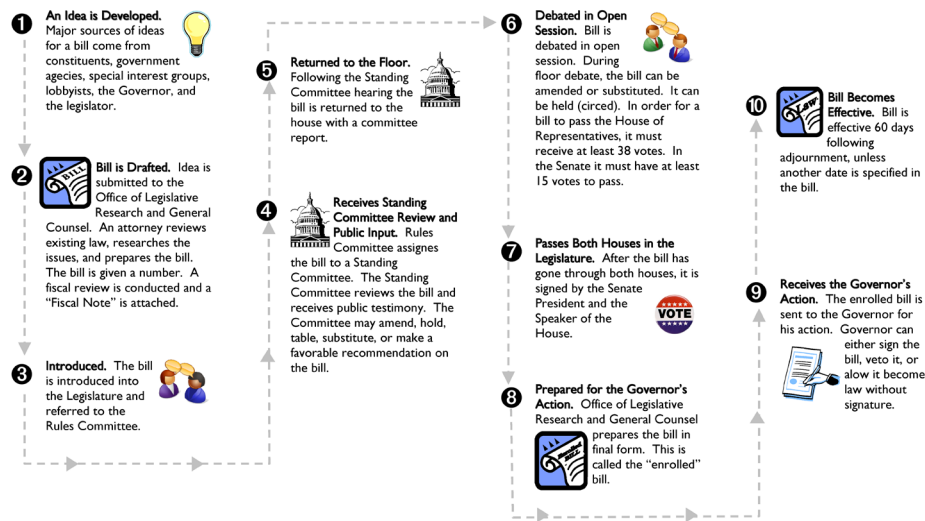
Lisa-Michele Church
Executive Director

locate the administrative functions of our agency with other state agencies on property by the State Tax Commission building. We have worked with the state's design team to come up with the program needs for the new building, in case these plans are finalized.

I hope you are all enjoying Utah's brisk winter weather and staying safe on the roads as you travel! Keep up the good work and thanks for all you do.

How a Bill Becomes a Law

Here is a brief description of the major steps a bill must go through before it becomes a law.



Juvenile Justice Services Road Trip

By Lisa Schauerhamer, Juvenile Justice Services

St. George - January finds us starting our road trip at the Washington County Youth Crisis Center (WCYCC). Tami Fullerton, Assistant Program Director, and her team provided us a grand tour of their facility. WCYCC, like other youth services programs, works with families in conflict and their crisis situations. Their service goals include resolving family conflict, reuniting families, maintaining family unity and diverting youth from entering or escalating in the juvenile justice system.

Most referrals to WCYCC come from the Receiving Center, a courtesy service for law enforcement when they pick up a delinquent youth who doesn't qualify for detention. Prior to each release, Youth Services workers meet with the youth and parents to ensure the immediate problem is resolved and they are aware of community resources that might fit their needs.

Parents, who are at their wits end with their teenager, often call Youth Services for over-the-phone guidance with their immediate problem and to set an appointment to bring their child in to talk and create a plan. Youth Services are offered to all families that come through the Receiving Center. Crisis intervention is the most common need and, although most families follow-up during the immediate crisis, many do not make or keep follow-up appointments.

Voluntary placement of youth in the Crisis Center is available in emergency situations for up to 72 hours; however, this "time out" is not typically used for longer than 12 hours as it can become counter-productive.

TEAM RAW (To Educate And Motivate The Ready And Willing) is a unique WCYCC outreach program. Reaching homeless/runaway teens and high-risk youth is possibly the most challenging task of the social service profession. Unfortunately, many youth in Washington County are "unattached," cast out or abandoned by their guardians and left to fend for themselves. A growing number of our youth are at risk of running away, dropping out of school, abusing alcohol and drugs, engaging in prostitution and attempting suicide. Traditional approaches to social services for these endangered youth and youth living on the streets often do not work.

The TEAM RAW program, currently operating only 16 hours/week, is designed to meet these youth in their environment – at school or on the streets, wherever the need may be. Outreach begins with a non-threatening, service oriented contact with youth in a familiar environment. Once trust is established, counselors begin the process of helping these youth set goals, gain access to community resources and develop positive life skills that will enable them to attain independence and be a positive member of the community.

Coming soon to St. George youth: "First Step Last Chance" Workshop



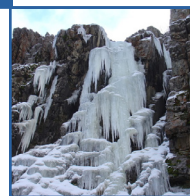
Provo – Vantage Point Youth Service Center is a multiple service, short-term, crisis residential program for adolescents, providing three important community services:

1. Youth Services
2. Juvenile Receiving
3. Division of Child and Family Services Emergency Shelter Care

Vantage Point is primarily funded through a Juvenile Justice Services contract with additional funding from Utah Division of Child and Family Services, Wasatch Mental Health and Federal Runaway and Homeless Youth Grant. The Vantage Point vision for intervention focuses on the strength of a teen and their family, a positive youth development approach, and the power for change created by a crisis situation, to guide youth and families to the most effective choices.

Youth Services provides essential services which include 24/7 crisis intervention, short-term shelter/"time-out" placement and family counseling. Youth Services accepts youth ages 12 through 17, and provides inpatient and outpatient individual, family, and group therapy. Outpatient groups focus on family relationships, anger management, girl's self-esteem, and early intervention substance abuse. Youth Services also provides skills development services, behavior management activities, case management, mental health assessments and referral services.

Juvenile Receiving is co-located within Youth Services and is a 24/7 reception, screening/evaluation and referral service for all juvenile offenders who do not qualify for secure detention. In addition to relieving law enforcement of the care of juvenile offenders, it provides a timely and appropriate conduit to services for troubled/delinquent youth and their families. Once a youth is "received" from law enforcement, Juvenile Receiving conducts an initial screening to determine interventions that may be needed and, subsequently, facilitates referrals to appropriate providers; youth are often referred to the Youth Services Program at Vantage Point.



Calling All Drivers!

By Lee Ann Whitaker, Division of Aging and Adult Services

Imagine sitting alone, day after day in your house or small apartment. Your poor body, which used to be young, spry, and healthy, is now old and worn out. You can't move without extreme pain, or you don't have the physical strength to get up and walk out your front door. For days at a time the only human voices you hear are on the radio or television because no one calls you, and no one comes to your door. The only meals you eat are a bowl of cereal in the morning, a slice of bread and jam for lunch, and a bowl of soup for dinner - if you're lucky. Trips to the grocery store are rare, partly because your pain imprisons you in your house, and partly because you don't drive. As time passes, your health continues to deteriorate. Poor nutrition causes you to become weaker, you become isolated and depressed.

If you are not in this situation, you can be a hero to seniors who may be. As a Meals on Wheels volunteer you can slow down or stop this downward spiral by giving seniors personal contact with another human being while delivering a ray of sunshine and a nutritious meal.

Meals deliverers do much more than deliver meals. They provide human contact, bring a

bright moment into a dismal day and, in some instances, they actually end up being a key factor in saving lives.

Interested in delivering meals in your community? Visit the Division of Aging & Adult Services website, http://www.hsdaas.utah.gov/pdf/utah_area_agencies_on_aging.pdf, to locate your local Area Agency on Aging Meals on Wheels Coordinator.

If you would like to join the downtown Salt Lake team, contact Lee Ann Whitaker, 801-538-3915, lwhitaker@utah.gov.

To be eligible for Meals on Wheels a person must be:

- at least 60 years old
- homebound
- unable to prepare their own meals

In Salt Lake County, approximately 1,050 meals are delivered every day Monday through Friday; this equates to 23,100/month and 293,000/year.

Downtown Salt Lake Deliverers - Beverley Macfarlane and Mary Caputo



An elderly woman, dependent on a wheelchair, woke up in the night needing a drink of water. She got into her heavy, battery-powered wheelchair and made her way towards the kitchen. Along the way, she bumped into something; the wheelchair lost balance and fell on top of her. It was 3:00 a.m. and she was unable to move the wheelchair and get up off the floor.

Nine hours later, the Meals on Wheels deliverer arrived to find her pinned under her chair. "I KNEW you would come!" she exclaimed as he helped her back into her chair.

Utah State Legislature 2008 General Session

Below are several bills of interest to Department of Human Services. To learn about additional bills of interest, contact your division's legislative liaison.

Adoption and Termination of Parental Rights Provides that a child-placing agency has a direct, tangible, and legitimate interest in the vital records of a child that has been placed with the agency pending finalization of an adoption. It also modifies the offense of "sale of a child" to a third degree felony.

Custody Amendments Changes the term "custody" to "parental responsibility" in more than 60 sections of State Code, with some dating as far back as 1969.

Medical Benefits Recovery Amendments Allows for a TEFRA lien to be placed on a Medicaid recipient's home if the recipient is over 55 years old and is in care more than 180 days.

Child Abuse and Neglect Registry-Management and Licensing Information Systems Amendments Amends provisions of the Utah Human Services Code and the Juvenile Court Act of 1996 relating to the Management Information System maintained by the Department of Human Services.

Animal Torture Offenses Modifies the Criminal Code regarding animal cruelty by providing that torture of an animal is a felony. This bill amends references to criminal intent and amends certain definitions.

Notary Public Revisions Amends the definition of "satisfactory evidence of identity" to provide that personal identification issued by another nation must be a passport and that a driving privilege card is not satisfactory evidence of identity.

Child Welfare Definitions Amends definitions and related provisions in the Child and Family Services chapter of the Utah Human Services Code and in the Juvenile Court Act of 1996.

Uniform Adult Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Jurisdiction Act Provides for the determination of jurisdiction in proceedings for guardianship and conservatorships for incapacitated adults and sets out proceedings when the parties are not all in the same state.

Substance Abuse Treatment for Pregnant Minors Amends the Utah Human Services Code to provide voluntary and involuntary substance abuse treatment to pregnant minors who abuse alcohol or other drugs, and to provide education



on the risks of alcohol or substance abuse during pregnancy.

Limited Immunity for Pregnant Women in Treatment Programs Amends the Utah Human Services Code to establish a public education and outreach program regarding the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other substances that are harmful during pregnancy.

Supported Employment Services to a Person with a Disability Makes the pilot program for provision of supported employment services, contained in the Services for People With Disabilities Chapter of the Utah Human Services Code, into a permanent program.

Controlled Substances and Paraphernalia Specifies that a plea in abeyance for the offence of production or distribution of a controlled substance is considered to be a conviction for sentencing enhancement purposes.

Juvenile Custody Maintenance Amendments Allows front line JJS and DCFS case workers to determine if extenuating circumstances exist within a family that could waive collection opportunity by ORS.

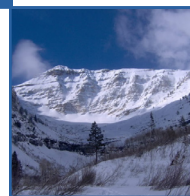
Use of Electronic Deposit for Office of Recovery Services Payments to Custodial Parents Requires custodial parents to provide an account number to ORS for the electronic transfer of funds.

Mobile Home Owner's Rights Requires 180 day notice before a lease may be terminated because of a change use or condemnation.

Adult Protective Services Amendments Cleans up some DAAS procedures and ensure a timelier due process for their clientele.

Expungement Amendments Amends the provisions regarding time periods for expungement to specify that in the case of multiple class A misdemeanors, 20 years must elapse before the offenses may be expunged.

Criminal Statute of Limitations Amendments Removes the statute of limitations for prosecutions of all first degree felony sex offenses.

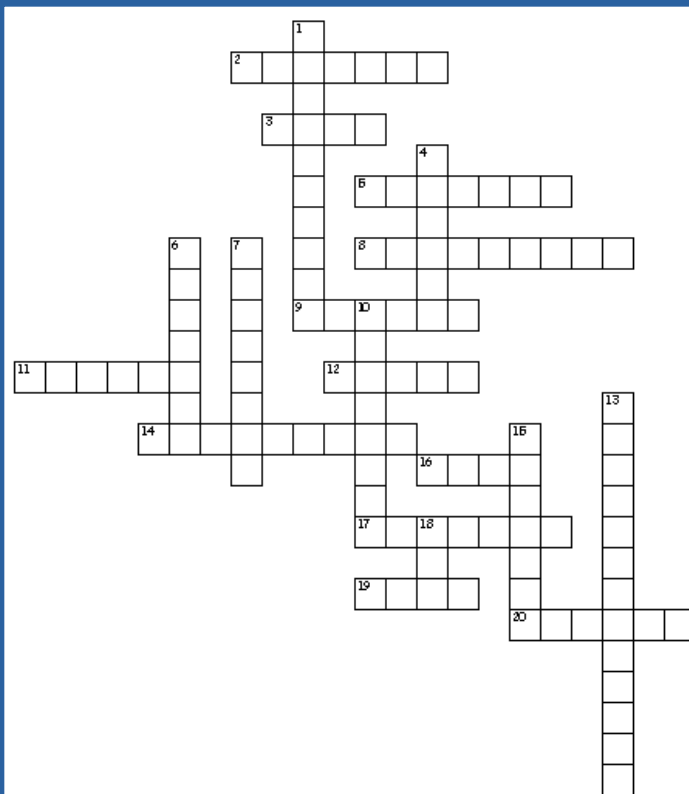


UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

2008 Legislative Liaisons

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DAAS	Nels Holmgren	nholmgren@utah.gov	801-538-3921
DCFS	Charri Brummer	cbrummer@utah.gov	801-538-4031
DSAMH	Thom Dunford	tdunford@utah.gov	801-538-4519
DSPD	Paul T. Smith	ptsmith@utah.gov	801-538-4205
JJS	Lisa Schauerhamer	lschauer@utah.gov	801-538-4086
OAH	Liz Knight	eaknight@utah.gov	801-538-3902
OFO	Cherie Root	croot@utah.gov	801-538-4456
OL	Ken Stettler	kstettler@utah.gov	801-538-4235
OPG	Donna Russell	dlrussell@utah.gov	801-538-4564
ORS	Catherine Taylor	catherinetaylor@utah.gov	801-536-8929
OSR	Brad McGarry	bmcgarry@utah.gov	801-538-4283

Legislative Buzz Words



Across

2. Presiding officer in the House of Representatives
3. Proposed law and common name
5. Legislative meeting where public may participate
8. A two-house Legislature
9. Intermission in a daily session
11. Estimates of proposed expenditures and expected revenues
12. Reference to the interior of the chamber
14. Presiding officer in the Senate
16. Individual selected to assist the party floor leader
17. Refers to stages of the Legislative process
19. Official action by Governor to modify Legislation
20. Approve and make valid

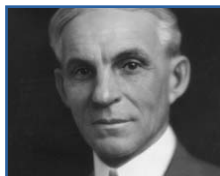
Down

1. Elected member of a Legislative body
4. Meeting of Legislative members to set course of action
6. Temporary or very brief recess
7. Individual paid to represent a special interest group
10. Sequential listing of bills and resolutions for floor considerations
13. Legislative authorization to make expenditures
15. Member who authors or agrees to introduce a measure
18. A bill passed by the Legislature

To check your answers, visit <http://le.utah.gov/Kids/Kids.html>
- click on "Bee Informed" and then click on "Buzz Words"

Training Tidbits

Proper training is essential to best serving our consumers. Below are just a few of the upcoming training opportunities supported by the department:



Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty.

- Henry Ford

Autism/Asperger Educator Conference

February 13, 14 & 15, 2008

Ogden Eccles Conference Center

Ogden, Utah

For additional/registration information contact Jennifer Hefti,

jennifer.hefti@schools.utah.gov, 801-538-7874.

Generations 2008 Conference

Behavioral/Mental Health & Substance Abuse in Public and Private Practices

March 6-7, 2008

Hilton Salt Lake City Center

Salt Lake City, Utah

For additional/registration information contact ESI Management Group at (801)501-9446 or toll-free (877)501-9446.

Utah Transition Conference

April 3-4, 2008

Provo Marriott

Provo, Utah

For additional/registration information contact Susan Loving, 801-538-7645,

susan.loving@schools.utah.gov or visit their website, <http://www.updc.org>.

HELP WANTED

Are you aware of a training or conference that we don't have listed in the Human Touch or online?

If so, please notify Elizabeth Sollis, esollis@utah.gov, 801-538-4275.

You may also submit events online on the department training calendars, www.hstraining.utah.gov.

Utah Correctional Association's Annual Spring Conference

April 27-30, 2008

Holiday Inn Conference Center, St. George, Utah

For additional/registration information contact Holly Jenkins, 801-627-0322 ext 208, hjenkins@utah.gov.

Friday, February 1, 2008, is national Wear Red Day—a day when Americans nationwide will take women's health to heart by wearing red to show their support for women's heart disease awareness.

National Wear Red Day is an annual event held on the first Friday in February. On this day, women and men across the country will wear red to unite in the national movement to give women a personal and urgent wake-up call about their risk of heart disease. Everyone can participate by showing off a favorite red dress, shirt, or tie, or by wearing the Red Dress Pin (Available at <http://www.hearttruth.gov>)



What's a Red Dress got to do with it? A simple Red Dress works as a visual red alert to get the message heard loud and clear: "Heart Disease Doesn't Care What You Wear—It's the #1 killer of Women." Sponsored by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.